

Dear FCC,

This is in regards to the brief petition RM-10784 filed by Dale Reich, K8AD, where he asks the commission to delete Element 1 for General class applicants but keep it in place for Extra class applicants.

Morse code is still being widely used in the amateur radio service, the commercial industry, by people who are physically disabled or handicapped as a means of communicating with others. American NASA Astronauts to this day still use Morse code, the U.S. Navy still uses light Morse too. If Morse code is still being utilized by our own government how can it be obsolete.

Myself being an ARRL Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner for the past years I've seen people show up to an exam session that were visually and hearing impaired or both. Those individuals were still able to pass any exam element they were administered, why because they studied and prepared for the exams, which is something most people don't want to do these days.

The Commission has already encouraged the use of Amateur Radio by reducing the Morse code speed requirement from 20 words per minute to 5 words per minute. but now some people want to do away with the Morse code requirement based on what other governments are doing.

The Amateur Service community is not suffering from the loss to its ranks of a large number of potentially excellent operators because of the Morse code requirement as some people claim.

The requirement for new prospective amateur applicants as well as other radio amateurs to demonstrate a Morse code skill for HF access should remain as it is now, and should not be changed or removed.

Governments that still require Morse code testing for amateur radio licensing or HF access, far exceed those countries or governments that do not. In my opinion for the Commission to do away with the Morse code requirement would be a big mistake that would only damage amateur radio's future and its reputation of having certified, skilled, qualified, and competent operators.

The fact that lots of radio amateurs have taken and passed the Morse code examination requirement over the years for HF access and continue to pass it even now, shows that Morse code testing is not a hindrance, limiting, or preventing licensed amateurs from

upgrading and it does not prevent people from getting an amateur radio license either.

We the United States should not make our decisions based on what other governments are acting upon. I say no to RM-10784.

Sincerely,

Victor Magana, N1VM